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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Cattle Disease	DATE DISTR.	21 April 1955
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This is UNEVALUATED
Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

BY CABLE

1. The examination of meat imported into East Germany has yielded no evidence of rinderpest. The inoculation of healthy animals with the blood of stricken animals did not result in a uniform disease pattern. Thorough investigations have revealed that the stricken animals had been eating Igelit binding twine with their fodder. This twine is made from Igelit fibers containing tricresyl phosphate which apparently produces a condition whose symptoms are similar to those of rinderpest.

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Comment: If the inoculations were performed properly and on a large scale, it may be concluded that there is no rinderpest present. It appears probable that the toxic symptoms were caused by the tricresyl phosphate. The real prevention of a spread of rinderpest would call for a mass slaughtering. Such an action, which could not be hidden, has not been observed in East Germany.

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